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1112 Berkshire Ave  
March 14, 1958

Dear Hans: I have your letters and regret to say that some of your figures are as "clear as mud".

Your letter of March 7 OK and have added \$309.75 for the Carlebach purchases.

Your letter of March 11. WHAT IS THE FIGURE \$706.75 at the bottom left hand? Don't match up with any figure I have.

(a) Lot 1501. This coin was taken by you in Phila at \$100 less 20% on consignment. In New York BEFORE that sale you said some one had questioned the piece and after considerable discussion pro and con you asked to BUY the coin for \$47.50 which I agreed. If you want to return the coin it is all right with me as I am satisfied it is genuine and well worth \$100.00.

(b) Lot 14. OK to put up again if you wish and split 50/50 but let's not forget it.

(c) Lot 320. This is a duzzy and you sure as hell are confused. FIRST: In calling off to me what the lot sold for you said it brought \$13.00, SECOND: When I wrote you that Ray Byrnes had not received the coin altho he phoned you to buy it (also Lot 321) you wrote me in your letter of March 12 that it sold "for \$14.50 as we got a bid to BUY after Byrnes talked to me". (You never told me Byrnes had called about these two lots and I did not know it until you wrote me). NOW YOU WRITE "Regular returned Lot 320 sold to new bidder, lower \$1.00". WHAT GIVES. First it was \$13, then \$14.50 NOW 13.50 and I still don't know who got the coin. WHY WAS IT RETURNED, WHO GOT IT AND WHY WHEN BYRNES PHONED AN UNLIMITED BID.

(d) Lot 321. You told me lot sold for \$20.00, now your letter say it was sold for \$21.00? Since I did not get together with you to list the sales price until TEN DAYS AFTER THE SALE why was it \$20 and now \$21.00?

(E) Why were Lots 315-318 returned and by whom? Why were Lots 326-327-328-330 all proof coins returned and by whom? Why did you accept them back if they were properly described?

(F) While on the subject of the auction, please note Lot 339 on which I had placed a minimum acceptable bid of \$10.00. When you called off the selling price you gave me \$6.25 which is NOT acceptable to me.

(G) Coin in Lot 1507. This is DEFINITELY NOT the coin I gave you in Phila and as you suggest I am returning it to you. I want either my coin back or the price agreed which was \$75 less 20% or \$60.00.

(H) I have just noticed in going through the correspondence to get these figures that the price of the piece in Lot 1501 was \$100 ~~net~~ NET (I have your own note for this) However, return it.

Please advise me on these lot for lot so we can get our accounts straight while the matter is ~~xxx~~ fresh in our minds.

Lots of snow here and Helen still home with the flu. Regards

Howard

\* Australia  
Selling  
50/50

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK



Museum of Moneys of the World

RCA Building, Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York 20, N.Y.

September 11, 1961

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs  
1112 Berkshire Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania


Dear Howard:

I know of a bank in the Midwest that is  
interested in purchasing a diversified  
collection of money.

Do you still wish to sell your collection?  
If so, I shall be glad to have the bank  
write to you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Vernon L. Brown  
Curator

761-5589

~~761-1172~~

Potomac  
246-1015589-

Richard  
C. Dick  
Gibbs

148261  
13821

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1112 Berkshire Avenue J n 16, 1961

Dear Hans: I am slow in answering your letters for several reasons. I had hoped to receive your check for the balance due me. Hans, more than 40 years ago your father here in Pittsburgh told me...when you bid at an auction remember that in most cases the cataloguer is selling coins belonging to someone else...he must pay the owner promptly according to the terms arranged...when you order any coins from Schulman...you can arrange to pay what you can each month...but you MUST pay for any coins you buy at our auctions PROMPTLY." Over these many many years I have never once failed to follow his advice and for many years I carries a note at my bank in order to pay auction accounts on time, in fact, even when I reached a time when a large auction bill would not embarrass me I still had a note at my bank just in case I should suddenly get in over my head.

With a sale Saturday morning, my sale in the afternoon of Nov 19 and an auction of antiques Dec 3, plus office and mail sales, if you cannot settle an auction account of less than twenty thousand dollars in 45 days when it is due...then I say you are NOT making the profit of margin you should. Being human I cannot but help think back to my days in the retail coal business when very often we would have a customer buy coal during the Summer months when prices were at the lowest and then not hear from them again all Winter. Upon checking up in the Spring we would find they had not paid OUR bill but had been buying coal from a competitor all Winter PAYING CASH. I hope that just because we are good friend these many years that you have not held up my payment while others have been taken care of.

Going now to your letters. Jan 4. I note Liddell's letter and I too am surprised. It could be that Hearn is telling the truth and that he hasn't paid Spink. As per his request I am sending you herewith the papers on Lot 100 which you can forward to him. Also returning his letter.

Check for \$8000.00 received on account.

Letter Jan 8. I have received the two small lots you returned. As you now know I did not go to Miami for the Convention. Since Helen is taking a leave of absence in May and June for our European trip she did not want to take time off now and I didn't want to go alone. Also I knew the convention would not amount to much and I had been advised the weather has been pretty cool. To me Miami is dead unless I can spend most of the daytime on the beach and in the water. We will leave NY May 8 via Pan-Am for London and then ten weeks on the Continent. Also plan on attending the Congress in Rome in September unless something prevents. Will talk to you about this when I see you.

Received your catalogue of Feb sale. You said sent by airmail but just arrived. I am sure as soon as the catalogues reach your mailing list you will have many letters of inquiry. Many many coins listed as on plates that are not, some on plates that are NOT in catalogue. If you will advise me on a few pieces I will plan on coming down for the sale.

OVER

- (1) Will you have Robert send me TWO copies regular mail for local club meeting.
- (2) Just a note Lot 119. Illustration is a Russian ruble but the correct coin is illustrated on ~~Page~~ Plate two.
- (3) Plates should be numbered.
- (4) Lot 411. You goofed on this. Very rare 10 Kronen of BELA KUN See full story by GIBBS in Numismatist Page 178 in 1919. Kossuth was a Hungarian hero but died many years ago.
- (5) IMPORTANT. Lot 578-A (The Mexico 8 Real cspd "Manilla 1830") is on the plate but I do not find it listed in the catalogue. WILL IT BE AVAILABLE?? As you know it is a variety from the two I have and I would like to own it despite the fact that within a year or two you may possibly be selling this part of my collection. BE SURE TO ADVISE.
- (6) Lot 727. Brother are you going to get a lot of kidding about this. The ENGLISH hired the Hessian soldiers to fight against the Colonists. George Washington must have turned over in his grave to learn that HE hired them.??????
- (7) Lots 2230-A-B and C. You say plate but can't find. Are these bullets or flat gold coins?

Only answer necessary is on (5), AND (7).

Regards

Howard

Sept 15, 1961

Dear Vernon:

I am very grateful for your letter of the 11th.

Yes, my entire collection of odd & curious money is for sale. The deal with Kosoff-Kaplan-Schulman fell through because of the terms of settlement. There was no question of price BUT the terms of settlement which they offered was not acceptable to my attorney. They wanted to pay one tenth down and the balance on yearly payments over a ten year period. My attorney insisted it would have to be 50% down and the balance over a ten year period.

I will appreciate very much anything you can do to help and you may be assured that I will be glad to send you a handsome check if a deal is made.

Best regards,

Howard D. Gibbs

Gibbs  
412  
531-6063

# THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK



Museum of Moneys of the World

RCA Building, Rockefeller Center, 1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York 20, N.Y.

September 25, 1961

Mr. Howard L. Gibbs  
11112 Berkshire Avenue  
Pittsburgh 26, Pennsylvania

Dear Howard:

I have just returned from a week's vacation and that is why I have not acknowledged your letter of September 15 sooner.


I imagine it was a disappointment to you when the deal for your collection of odd and curious money fell through. Perhaps I should have been more specific in my previous letter as the bank in the Midwest is interested in a diversified collection of moneys of the world which would include not only odd and curious, but coins and notes of the United States and other countries.

I was in hope that you might still have some items left from your vast collection of coins and notes that would be suitable for this bank. If a satisfactory collection can be obtained the bank plans to exhibit it in a room as large, if not larger, than our space at Rockefeller Center. It also wants a man, presumably the owner of the collection, who will help set up and arrange the display and serve as its curator.

Kindly let me know if your collection includes material of a general nature and not just the odd and curious. If so, and if the proposal appeals to you, perhaps a meeting could be arranged at the Penn-Ohio Convention in Cleveland.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Vernon L. Brown  
Curator



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Home  
1112 Berkshire Avenue  
Pittsburgh 26 Pa.  
September 27,,1961

Dear Vernon.

Thanks for your letter of the 25th.

Herewith a list of some of the duplicates of odd and curious pieces I have on hand. Of course I could add many more from purchases within the last year as I only enter new items in my catalogue once a year to eighteen months. Until the new specimens are numbered and entered they are mostly available since, in most cases, they are just varieties of what I already have.

As to coins I have probably three hundred Brown and Foreign coins and probably 5000 minor Foreign of the latter class. These are all duplicates from my original collection as I never made any effort to sell duplicates which I obtained in buying entire collections.

Of US coins I have quite a few from half cents to dollars, mostly nice coins. This is NOT a collection however but an accumulation of better condition coins once again obtained when I bought collections to get what I wanted in foreign, counterstamped, siege or odd & curious.

On paper money I have quite an accumulation but very very little in regular US notes. I do have many of the Confederate notes, some Colonial and Continental, some Broken Bank Bills but, once again an accumulation rather than a collection. I have a great many foreign notes, some very rare ones in fact (like first bank note of Sweden the 10 daler 1661).

If a sizeable purchase was made I would be glad to give whatever time was necessary to design proper display cases, arrange displays, labels etc. and would act as Curator JUST LONG ENOUGH to break in someone as a permanent employee. Under no condition would I stay any longer than necessary altho I would be available anytime for consultation.

Will be at the Penn-Ohio Convention in Cleveland from Thursday Oct 12 to Sunday and if you are to be there let's get together and talk this thing over.

I appreciate your interest and help.

Sincerely yours,

Howard D. Gibbs

1112 Berkshire Avenue  
Pittsburgh 26 Pa.  
Oct 23, 1961

Dear Tim:

Thank you for your letter of the 18th part of which I do not understand. I wrote you that I did not collect such conventional coins as the scarce 60 chomshis of TARIM so was returning it and asked that you send me a coin or coins in my lines (siege, necessity, counterstamped) worth \$25 and we would be square. You now send me a CURACOA cut 3 bits piece for \$5.00 which is all right and your personal check for \$5.00, you do not expalin about the balance of \$15.00 which I consider due me on the exchange. The Ethiopic and the Madagascar crowns were received.

NOW...Tim don't know what he shetting is all about and have no idea who put the turpentine on the ass-hole but it certainly wasn't me. I don't know where you get the idea that it takes a lot of GUTS to locate coins in the Near East, Asia or anywhere else. I have been doing this very thing for over fifty years and I never considered that it took any "GUTS" to do it. I do know that it took ingenuity, lots of work, voluminous correspondence, a lot of gaurdin for proper contacts etc.

The fact that you have located in Q3 MILITARY many coins that were scarce here and the dealers were charging high prices is your business and very smart on your part. That some of the dealers might resent this is understandable but nothing to get excited about. Lots MORE POWER TO YOU.

However, the lion is a fake. The question of the lion capd on DMLAR SIZE foreign crown is an entirely different story. In my humble opinion SOMEONE has obtained the ORIGINAL DIE from which this counterstamped was originally used and in the past, yes, or two has been flooding the market with it. He will be with putting the stamp on once he has in many one hundred or more or three times.

Let's look at one record. The Government of Costa Rica by decree dated November 12, 1949 ordered that the dialect at San Jose was to be counterstamped HABLA INDIA in the center with a line in a circle of the inscription HABLA INDIA POR EL MUNDO (Indians of the world) the diameter of the stamp to be 5 mm. The full story of this story is published on Page 59 Chapter XLIV and Plate No. 111 Indigenismo No. 27-28-29. This record has been published in 1961 by ROL GUTHRIE under the name CONTRIBUCION AL ESTUDIO DE LAS MONEDAS DE COSTA RICA, San Jose, Costa Rica 1958.

Next, I have personally specialized on counterstamped coins of the world for over 50 years. I have more than two hundred counterstamped coins of Costa Rica. Many dollar size coins were counterstamped by earlier decrees but not the lion in a circle or inscription. I have never seen the lion on a dollar coin until the last year when you have sold many many different coins to a number of dealers and myself. Do you not think that the author of this latest book, the government records, my collection or some other would have located at least ONE of these coins if they were legitimate issues made in 1849?

Now..Tim I have not said and I am not saying that YOU are in possession of this die and that you are making these modern impression BUT I am calling your attention to the fact that up until the last year NO SUCH COUNTERSTAMP ON FOREIGN DOLLAR WERE KNOWN AND (B) YOU ARE THE ONLY DEALER WHO HAS BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE THEM.

Now..this is NOT SOUR GRAPES. I have twelve of these coin and I am willing to buy more from you if the price is right simply because I believe the STAMP IS GENUINE. I do NOT BELIEVE that the counterstamping is contemporaneous. I would like your comments. I would like to be friends but Tim I am the last personal in the numismatic field you should try to tie ass-holes with.

Please advise about the ten dollar balane. I leave Nov 7 for Mexico